

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~MD-995~~ CH-995

Address: Fairground Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata

Owner: Washington, Anthony J; Johnson, Louis and Margaret E et al; Gray, Barbara E and James R;

Tax Parcel Number: 343,104,109,61,131,111 Tax Map Number: 44, 55

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility **not** recommended ☒

Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☒ None

Is property located within a historic district?: ☒ no ☐ yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed?: ☒ no ☐ yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

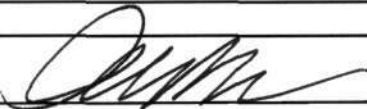
The survey district on Fairground Road is composed of eight resources. These circa 1940 buildings are all modest, single family dwellings that range in height from one- to two-stories. Seven of the buildings are wood frame and one is constructed of brick. All of the houses are similar in design except for the two-story dwelling, which appears to have been significantly altered.

7930 Fairground Road is one story in height and four bays wide. The wood frame house is clad with horizontal siding and has a side gable roof.

7935 Fairground Road is a wood frame, one-and-one-half-story dwelling with a side gable roof. The house has a central entrance flanked by paired 3/1, double-hung, wood sash windows. The house is clad with horizontal siding.

7870 Fairground Road is a one-story, brick dwelling with a side gable roof. A shed roof extends from the main roof to cover the enclosed, brick porch. Metal awnings extend from the shed roof to shade the louvered windows of the

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Consideration <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
	11/3/99
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

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porch. The paired windows to either side of the porch have header-coursed sills.

A one-and-one-half-story, wood frame house is located towards the northern end of Fairground Road. The house is three bays wide with a one-story side addition. The dwelling has a side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. The house is symmetrical with a central entry. The entry is marked by a front gable roof portico that is supported by decorative columns. The entrance is flanked by paired 1/1, double-hung sash windows.

8565 Fairground Road is a one-story, three-bay wide house with a side gable roof. The house is symmetrical with a central entry flanked by single, 2/2, double-hung sash windows. The entrance is marked by a front gable portico supported by simple wood posts.

8590 Fairground Road is one story in height and has a side gable roof. The lower half of the primary elevation (southwest) is clad with horizontal siding while the upper half is clad with vertical wood siding. The house has been altered. A large 9-light casement window pierces the façade and a one-story wing has been added to the northwest elevation.

7890 Fairground Road is one story in height and three bays wide. A shed roof porch extends from the side gable roof of the house. The porch is supported by turned wood posts and has been screened. The wood frame house, clad with horizontal siding, has a brick base with a rowlock-coursed water table.

A two-story, wood frame dwelling is located on the Crain Highway side of Fairground Road. The house appears to have been recently remodeled. The dwelling is covered by a shallow pitched, side gable roof. A one-story projecting bay sits to the south of the main elevation (east). A one-story wing with an attached front gable car port is located on the north elevation. The house has been resided with vinyl siding and the windows have been replaced.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments contributed to the suburbanization of La Plata. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. The Robert Crain Highway was completed in 1927 and it provided the most direct way to Baltimore and points north of Charles County. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s. With the introduction of the Harry W. Nice Bridge in 1940, Crain Highway, now known as U.S. 301, was transformed from a local road into a bypass for traffic traveling between Florida and New York.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
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Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

Although Charles County was still primarily rural, by the 1930's, La Plata began to grow significantly because of the development of Crain Highway. Non-agricultural business began to increase around La Plata and the county seat's position within Charles County became economically more diverse. Development, including housing, increased as a result of Crain Highway and the influx of new businesses and investment into the area.

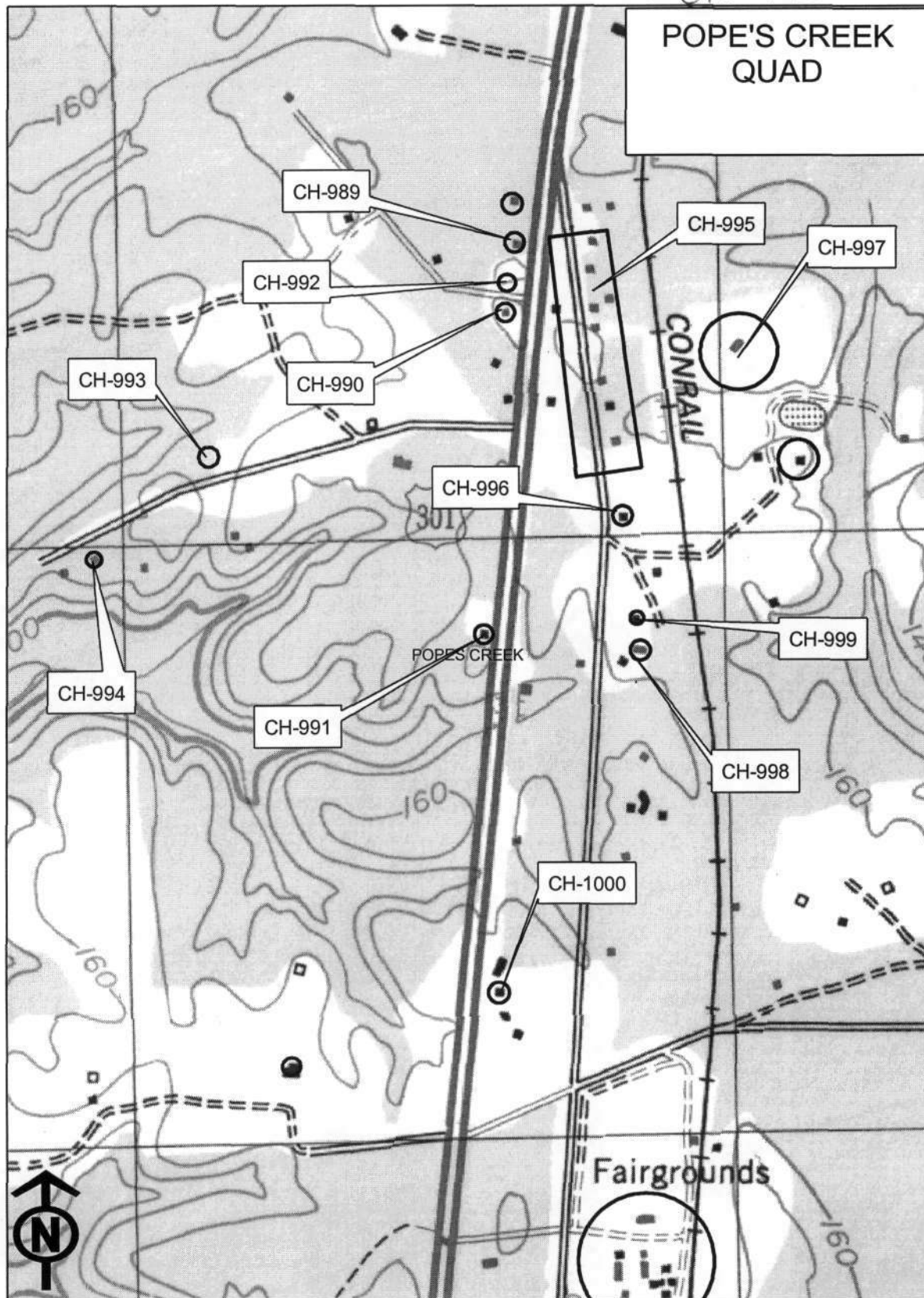
World War II and the increasing dependence upon motor vehicles played a very important role in La Plata's community development. Charles County continued its relative isolation from large-scale residential and commercial development until after Crain Highway was dualized and designated U.S. 301 in the 1960s.

The houses in this Survey District were constructed near the Charles County Fairgrounds. Built in 1945, the fairgrounds have contributed to the social and cultural life of the residents of Charles County. Agricultural fairs have traditionally provided members of rural communities with a means for recreation, education, and community involvement through the display of agricultural products and livestock, and the holding of competitions. These fairs have also provided an important setting for the promotion and exchange of new ideas regarding progressive agricultural techniques, new technology, and the breeding of crops and livestock.

Built circa 1940, the Survey District on Fairground Road is not eligible for the National Register. While it is typical of the modest residential development surrounding La Plata, these resources lack significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.

CH-995

POPE'S CREEK
QUAD





~~NE-0070~~ CH-995

7930 Fairground Road
Charles County, MD

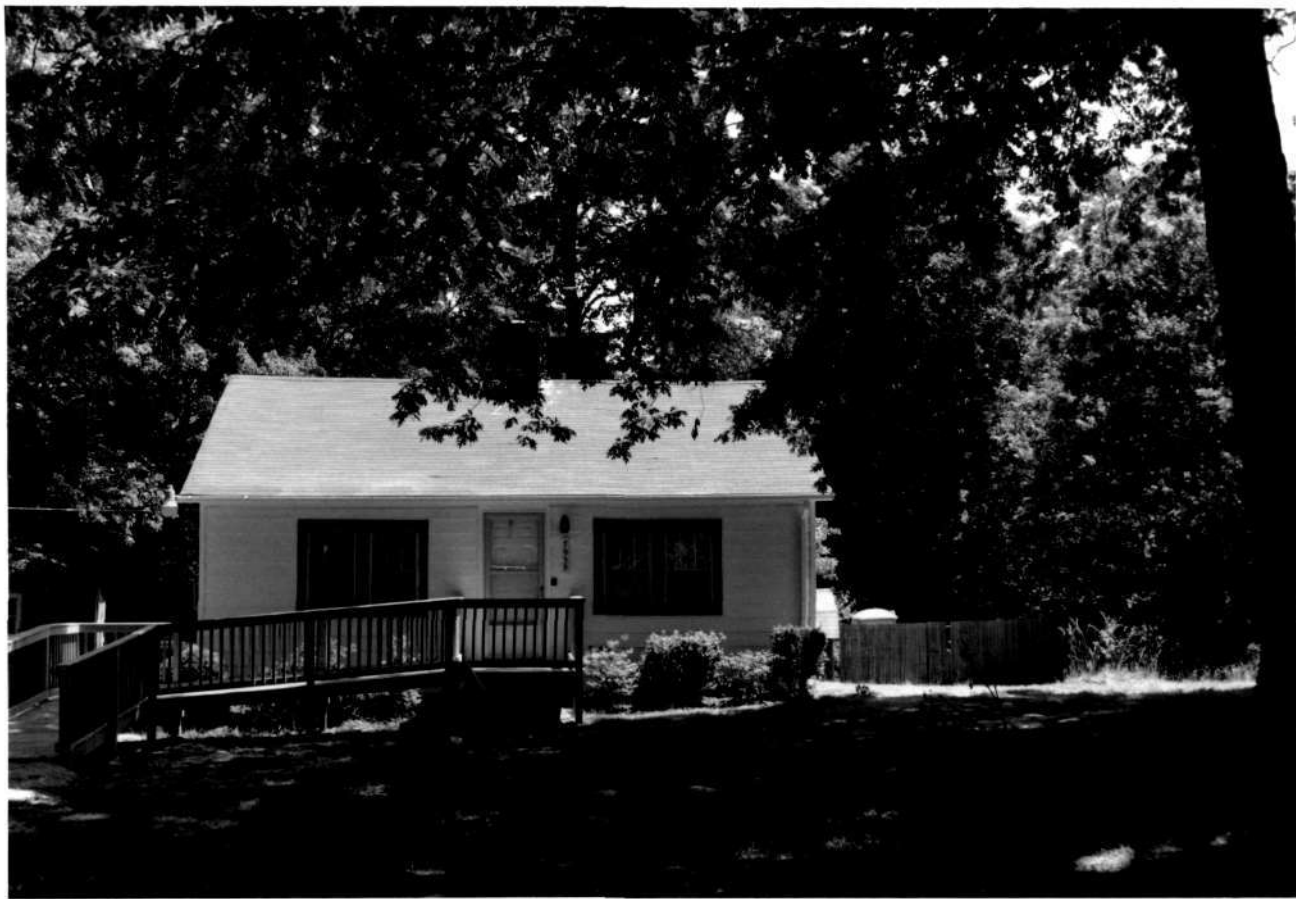
Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View of West elevation

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~~HI-995~~ CH-995

7935 Fairground Road
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View of East elevation

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~~W-0570~~ CH-995

7870 Fairground Road
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View of west elevation

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~~H-0070~~ CH-995

end of Fairground Road
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking Northeast
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~~#0070~~ CH-995

8565 Fairground Road

Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking Southwest

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~~H-0070~~ CH-995

8590 Fairground Road

Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking Northeast

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~~140070~~ CH-995

7890 Fairground Road
Charles County, MD
Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking Southeast

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~~ALCO 10~~ CH-995

Fairground Road
Charles County, MD
Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View of east elevation
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